1: Gillin E-5 (1932-33) 1936 SR9 Carib SR9

341 Finally, the medial runner (otondano) is placed in position. This
335 is a pole which runs the full length of the house in the median line and is firmly tied to each of the points where a tie-beam crosses a ridge pole support (Plate 14, *a*). When the house is completed, sticks (sura) are laid from the medial runner to the lateral runners under the eaves, thus making a sort of rack or loft on which articles can be stored.

Before describing the methods of thatching roofs, it may be well to consider several variants of the above method of making house frames. In one type of house the roof frame is held in position without the use of ridge pole supports. Stability is given at intervals by the use of transverse struts connecting the two members of a given set of rafters at a distance of about two feet below the ridge pole. Additional stability is afforded by the use of diagonal struts, tied to the under sides of the rafters. In building a roof of this kind, temporary ridge pole supports are used while the rafters, roof binder, and struts are secured in position (Plate 16, *b*).

The small four-pillar house is sometimes built without the use of wall-plates. In this type of construction it will be noted that the rafters rest directly upon the longitudinal runners, which in turn rest upon the transverse tie-beams. (In the standard design the tie-beams rest upon the runners.)

342 A number of different species of palm leaves are used for thatch-
824 ing the roofs of the houses. These include truli (*Manicaria saccifera*), ite (*Mauritia flexuosa*), dallibanna (*Geonoma baculifera*), kokerite (*Maximilliana regia*), manicol (*Euterpe edulis*), tura (*Oenocarpus bacaba*), and ballidanna (unidentified). These materials do not occur in equal quantities throughout the area, so that one village may be thatched with one combination, another with a different material. Inasmuch as Roth has described with great preciseness the sundry details regarding the making of the different types of thatches,[1] I shall content myself with a general description and the mention of a few points not covered by him.

All types of thatch are attached to the rafters with the help of stringers. These are frequently made of konapuri wood (a small tree which somewhat resembles kokerite in appearance). The stringers are tied to the rafters in a number of ways, as figured by Roth, by a continuous piece of nibi which runs the entire length

[1] Roth, 1924, *An Introductory Study of the Arts, Crafts, and Customs*, pp. 265–270.

1: Gillin E-5 (1932-33)1936 SR9 Carib SR9

354 A sort of lamp or taper is sometimes made of beeswax and cotton. (Lamp, kororeta; beeswax, wawapone.) Yarn is taken from a discarded cotton hammock and made into a coil, which is encased in melted beeswax. The yarn serves as a wick.

417 An adjunct of the house furniture is the drying rack (Carib,
352 aripapone; creole, babracote). On the drying rack, meat is smoked
[251] over the fire. Drying racks are also erected outside the house for the purpose of airing and sun-drying cassava bread, split squashes, peppers, and other food. Only two of the patterns mentioned by Roth occur in the Barama country.[1] The three-stick type (Plate 18, *b*) is made with three sticks stuck into the ground like a tripod, with their tops tied together; about halfway from the ground they support a horizontal frame or rack. The four-upright type is a rectangular horizontal frame or grill supported on four upright forked sticks (Plate 13, *a*). The drying racks may vary in height and size and, as stated, may be situated inside or outside the house. Their several parts are tied together with bush-rope.

343 As illustrated in the description and plan of the village of Sawari (Figs. 9–12), various subsidiary buildings and out-houses may be associated with the family dwelling. These serve the purposes of kitchen, storehouses, or drink houses, as the case may be.
[341] They are always four-pillar types of less elaborate construction than the dwelling itself, although the design may vary from one of the temporary benab types to the simpler forms of house design, usually without wall plates. Sometimes such a subsidiary house is a former dwelling converted into an outhouse when a newer and more elaborate dwelling is constructed. A structure to which every family aspires is a drink house (kanu'eti). Such a building
[445] shelters the kanu, or cassiri barrel, a large trough hollowed out of a single log, in which the drink is allowed to "set," and from which it is served at sprees. Families unfortunate enough not to possess a kanu use large pottery jars for holding the drink. In this case the jars are kept in the dwelling house, no special structure being necessary.

231 Numerous wild animals are regularly kept about the house as
136 pets. Among the most important of these is the warakabra, a fowl with the iridescent plumage of a peacock and the abbreviated rump of a guinea hen; these birds set up a warning scream upon

[1] Roth, 1924, *An Introductory Study of the Arts, Crafts, and Customs*, pp. 276–277.